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Scientific Note

NEW RECORD OF THE BLOWFLY, *CHRYSOMYA MEGACEPHALA* (FABR.), FROM ECUADOR (DIPTERA: CALLIPHORIDAE)

The Oriental Latrine Fly, *Chrysomya megacephala* (Fabr.) is an Old World blowfly that has been introduced into the Western Hemisphere within the past two decades. It has been reported from Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela in the Neotropical Region. It is established in Mexico and southern California in the Nearctic. We recently found evidence that *C. megacephala* is also present in Ecuador, a new Neotropical record for this species.

Our examination of frozen fillets of mahi mahi (dolphinfish) imported from Ecuador found an adult female *C. megacephala* embedded in a fillet, beneath an exterior coating of ice glaze. The mahi mahi fillets had been prepared, glazed and frozen in Guayaquil, Ecuador, prior to shipment to Los Angeles, California, where the fillets were examined. The entire shipment of fillets is documented as having been continuously held in frozen storage at 0° C from the time it left Ecuador until we examined it. The fillet that we examined was prepared in Ecuador in 1989 or earlier. Because the specimen of *C. megacephala* was found underneath the original ice glaze, we conclude that it came from Ecuador along with the fillet. We also conclude that *C. megacephala* has been present in Ecuador for over a year, based on the packing date of the fillet that we examined. This is the first time that we have observed *C. megacephala* on mahi mahi, although it has been recorded from other varieties of seafood. It is also the first indication that this species has extended its Neotropical range into Ecuador. Wherever this filth fly occurs, public health officials are concerned over the role that this species may play in the transmission of foodborne pathogens and other diseases.

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Scientific Note

***PASSALUS (PERTINAX) PUNCTATOSTRIATUS* PERCHERON (COLEOPTERA: PASSALIDAE) IN THE SIERRA DE MANANTLAN, JALISCO, MEXICO**

As a contribution to the knowledge of the Sierra de Manantlán passalid fauna (Castillo, C. et al. 1988. *Acta Zool. Mex.* (ns), 30: 1–20) an additional record of *Passalus (Pertinax) punctatostriatus* Percheron is reported. This Passalini species has a wide distribution and is found from México, south to Venezuela, Colombia and Brazil. In eastern México, its range follows the gulf coast plain north to the Sierra Madre Oriental (Reyes-Castillo, P. 1970. *Folia Entomol. Mex.*, 20–22: 1–240), while in the west it is limited to the tropics from Guerrero, south to Chiapas; it occurs from sea level to 1400 m. This species has a large environmental tolerance and is found in evergreen tropical forests, humid pine oak forests, cloud forests, secondary forests and coffee cultures.

We found it in decaying logs, under bark and in heartwood, where decomposition varied widely, from incipient to high. There is no apparent preference for tree species selected for nest building; individuals can be found even in decomposed fruits, which underscores the species' great plasticity.

In the Biosphere Reserve of Manantlán in southwestern Jalisco, 12 adults were found in the localities of El Puerto de Los Mazos (cloud forest), El Tigre and La Calera (subdeciduous tropical forest). Two separate reproducing couples collected in October 1989 and February 1990, and kept under ideal laboratory conditions, produced broods in April and May. The brood sizes were three and 14. Additional observations in other parts of the country yielded an average brood size value for the species of 6.11 ± 4.6 ($n = 76$). Groups of larvae and adults have been collected together showing the characteristic subsocial behavior attributed to the family.

In Sierra de Manantlán the reproduction period is prolonged. Under laboratory conditions couples copulated from the end of March to the middle of April, and at the beginning of October individuals were collected from all the development stages. This agrees with the general pattern found in many species of passalids, where reproductive periods extend throughout the year without pronounced seasonality. Likewise, the copulation behavior observed is similar to the generalized